

**United States House of Representatives  
Committee on Appropriations  
Project Request Summary**

**Subcommittee, Agency and Account Information**

**Subcommittee**

Labor, HHS, Education

**Agency**

Department of Education -- National Projects

**Account**

Safe Schools and Citizenship Education -- Civic Education Program for activities authorized under the Education for Democracy Act and a comprehensive program between the Center for Civic Education, Indiana University, and NCSL

**Project Information**

**Project Name:**

The Center for Civic Education

**Amount Requested:**

\$35,000,000

**Project Description:**

The Education for Democracy Act programs are among the most cost effective programs supported by the federal government. They effectively promote among students a profound understanding of and commitment to the fundamental values and principles of American constitutional democracy as expressed in such seminal documents as the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and Bill of Rights, and the Gettysburg Address. They also promote students' capacities to participate competently and responsibility in the political life of their communities and the nation.

Through the We the People programs every congressional district receives free sets of specialized textbooks for their schools at the upper elementary, middle and high school levels. Teachers benefit from professional development seminars and institutes to improve their content knowledge and teaching methods. A network of dedicated volunteers administers each program locally, adapting the program to their local needs and leveraging the federal funding with additional amounts at the state and local level in support of the program.

The School Violence Prevention Demonstration Program (SVPDP) provides valuable staff training to improve civic responsibility and promote positive attitudes. The Native American Initiative, administered as a part of the SVPDP, provides civic education programs and assistance to Native American schools. The High Needs Initiative is reaching out to students in schools that serve high percentages of socio-economically disadvantaged students and those experiencing attendance or truancy problems.

The Civitas International program provides for a series of exchanges among leaders in civic education in the United States and emerging and established democracies worldwide. A number of research studies have testified to the positive impact of all of

these programs on student civic knowledge, skills, and dispositions. Additional information on all of the programs and the research evidence is available at [www.civiced.org](http://www.civiced.org). The Economic Education Exchange Program involves teachers from the United States in helping students in emerging democracies understand the principles and institutions of a market economy and their relationship to democracy.

**Intended Recipient of Funds**

The Center for Civic Education  
5145 Douglas Fir Road  
Calabasas, CA 91302

**Explanation of the request:**

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